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trine, but the administration has declined to interfere, on the ground that the question at issue was one of honor between two sovereign States and that the United States could not undertake to extend a protectorate over American republics when violating international law in regard to aliens. The excitement in Nicaragua has been very great. The opposition party, taking advantage of the situation, has made an attempt to overthrow the present government. The government has proclaimed martial law. In view of a possible revolution and consequent danger to American citizens our government has dispatched three warships to the coast of Nicaragua. At this writing it is stated that Great Britain is willing to withdraw her forces and give Nicaragua fifteen days extension of time if she will agree to pay the indemnity within that period. Ambassador Bayard has been influential in bringing about this proposed extension.

## THE YOUNG FOLKS.

### IN TIME OF SIEGE.

ELISE.

BY IDA WHIPPLE BENHAM.

"I wish I were a sparrow!" the little maiden said,  
 "For then upon a single worm my hunger might be fed.  
 A fir-tree in the forest glade should house me from the storm,  
 And a coat of softest feathers should keep me snug and warm."

"My father in the army is wounded, sick and sore;  
 My mother died but yesterday—the cart is at the door.  
 I ate the bit of bread she left—there is no more to-day.  
 Where shall I go, what shall I do when she is borne away!"

"Why must the prince have soldiers? Ah, that I'd like to know!  
 Why did they take my father? We begged him not to go.  
 Why must men fight with guns and swords till all the streams  
 run red,  
 When they would gladly stay at home and buy their children bread?"

"I wish I were a sparrow and knew a little song  
 Without one note of anguish, without one hint of wrong,—  
 The tiniest of sparrows safe sheltered in a tree,  
 With a worm to eat, and a mother's breast to shield and comfort  
 me!"

## ROGER WILLIAMS.

BY HEZEKIAH BUTTERWORTH.

He slept amid the winter snows,  
 By ravens fed, he brake his way,  
 But, lo, the towns of heroes rose  
 Where'er the Exile knelt to pray!

I see him now, our Leader grand,  
 When called to make for Truth his choice,  
 'Mid Councils grave assembling, stand,  
 And 'gainst the world I hear his voice:

"Thee, sense of Right, I must obey,  
 And hope and trust, whate'er betide;  
 I cannot always know my way,  
 But I can always know my Guide.

"Self-sacrifice is never lost,  
 But bears the seed of its reward;  
 They who for others lose the most,  
 For others gain the most from God.

"Yes, though forsaken, I must go,  
 With nothing for my hope but prayer,  
 Amid the winds, amid the snow,  
 Amid the ravens of the air.

"Helpless of hand, and sore of heart,  
 Bereft of human brotherhood,  
 I trust the whole and not the part,  
 And know that Providence is good."

In exile thus he moored his bark  
 Where white the Indians' smoke-wreaths curled,  
 And there in cabins lone and dark,  
 He saw the Truth that freed the world.

Sublime, he treads these ancient shores,  
 'Mid bearded oaks and caverns wild,  
 And pleads with chiefs and sagamores  
 To spare the towns that him exiled.

Beside the Narragansett Bay,  
 The red tribes heard his voice ascend:  
 "Forbear your enemies to slay,  
 And God himself will be your friend!"

He rested; bade a city rise;  
 What name should be its strong defence?  
 To Heaven's high gates he raised his eyes,  
 And saw the angel PROVIDENCE!

Young church upon the march of time!  
 Such was thy Prophet; rise and prove  
 Thy equal worth and faith sublime,  
 And thou humanity shalt move!

He saw the future's lifted arch,  
 And to the nations oped the gates.  
 Take thou his Guide and forward march,  
 A greater victory thee awaits!

## THE MAGAZINES AND PAPERS.

HERALD OF PEACE.

### Parliamentary Protest against Jingoism.

In the House of Commons, on March 18th, a praiseworthy but unavailing protest was raised by, unfortunately, only a very small number of Members, against the recent renewed panic outlay upon Armaments. The following were some of the objections raised:

Sir WILFRID LAWSON said he agreed with the late Sir R. PEEL, who long ago said:—"I believe that in time of peace we must by retrenchment consent to incur some risk." Those were words of common sense; and it ought to be explained now whether we were preparing to fight the whole world, or were proceeding on a more rational footing. Of course, they would hear again the old adage, "If you wish for peace you must prepare for war"; but that was like saying that if you wanted to keep dry you must jump into a river, or if you wanted to keep sober you must fly to brandy. Experience showed the folly of the wise saying that was so often quoted. France and Germany, Russia and Turkey, were the four nations that had fallen most completely under militarism, and we know that within living memory all these nations have been involved in disastrous wars. From his earliest youth he had been taught that the Liberal policy was comprised in the words, "Peace, Retrenchment and Reform." But this Liberal Government was out-jingoing the Jingo, and the estimates were more extravagant than ever. The bloated armaments, as long ago they were called, were increasing. Ten years ago, said the representative of the Admiralty, the Navy estimates were twelve mil-